

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to indicate that this application is the national stage of PCT/US00/08231 and to include a reference to the prior provisional application. Claims 6, 24, 34, 44, 46, 48, 66, 71, 77, 84, 85, 90-92, 106, and 112 have been amended to remove multiple dependencies. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, and 9 have been amended to remove obvious typographical errors. Claim 77 has been amended to remove an obvious editing error. New claims 115-118 have been added and are directed to embodiments of the invention. New claim 118 corresponds to original claim 25 (second occurrence). Claims 1-9, 24, 26, 29-30, 34, 38-48, 66-67, 71-72, 77, 84-85, 90-92, 106, 112, and 115-118 are currently pending. A set of pending claims is attached. Figures 2 and 18 have been amended to correct obvious typographical errors. The drawing amendment is supported, e.g., by the priority application Figures 2 and 18. No new matter has been added by way of this Preliminary Amendment.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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